



Providing bicycles and other wheeled toys to children with life threatening illnesses.

The Pedaler

June 2020

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light."

Taylor Benson

Hello everyone!! Welcome to ***The Pedaler***, the only and official newsletter of Cody's Wheels Of Hope. We hope you are all staying safe and healthy. This year has been one of great change and challenge. We have all had to learn to live with the changes – and hopefully we will all be better for it!

One thing that has not changed is that we still have children who need us to brighten their lives. Pandemics, riots, and discord have no place in a child's life – especially when they are dealing with their own private Hell.

On that note, here are the kids we have made happy since you last heard from us.

Kyle, age 15 of Stamford, CT, will be receiving a 26" blue Titoni mountain bike and a Luxada black & blue helmet. 5-year-old **Zain** of Lorton, VA will be ripping up the sidewalk on his red and black Razor Power Core E90 Glow electric scooter. He will be stylish wearing his black helmet with knee & elbow pads and wrist guards. **Kimani**, age 5 of Silver Springs, MD received the same scooter as his hospital mate, except his helmet & safety equipment is red. A **2-year-old boy** in Mebane, NC is the proud owner of a 12" Spiderman bike and a blue Bell helmet.

Emma, age 7 of Kansas City, KS, is very happy to have received her Special Tomato Jogging Stroller. Her wheelchair had broken and needed a way to get around. Now she can go berry picking with her family instead of sitting in the family car. **Catherine**, age 12 of Old Greenwich, CT was ecstatic when she got her blue mini cruiser skateboard and orange helmet. She also received a carrying strap and storage holder.

13-year-old **Joshua** of Stamford, CT will be the proud owner of a new 26" Carbon Steel Mountain Bike and a Bell Reflex helmet. **Loc**, age 4 of Falls Church, VA, is sharing his new Radio Flyer Deluxe All-Terrain Pathfinder Wagon with his little sister. I have one more application at the moment that I am working on that requires something out of the ordinary. More on that in the next newsletter.

There is a worldwide shortage of bicycles right now. The smaller bikes are somewhat available, but the larger ones are a challenge. One of the boys above will not be receiving his bike until mid-August – early September, and another one mid to late September. Also, the cost of the bikes has risen. Luckily, most of our kids have chosen other wheeled toys.

“Even a minor event in the life of a child is an event of that child’s world and that is a world event.”

Gaston Bachelard

The above quote is something that we have – over and over – found to be true. Here are a few excerpts from a few thank you notes we have received:

From Emma’s family –

“Thank you so much for Emma’s amazing stroller! We have been out walking and exploring our land. Her wheelchair is still broken, so the stroller has been an amazing blessing. Sending love and prayers.”

From Catherine –

“Thank you so much for my skateboard! I love it so much. It made my day. The color is perfect. Also, thank you for the helmet. I will send a picture to your email.” (Note.... We received a couple pictures from her Mom and also a nice note from her!)



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From Jace-

“Thank you soooooo much for the bike and helmet. I love them. The helmet is sick and the bike is awesome.” His Mom wrote – “We are still a bit in shock that you sent Jace a new bike – wow! You and your organization will Forever be in our hearts when we think back on this cancer journey. Thank you for your generosity and thank you for the incredibly huge smile you brought to Jace’s face.”

With Big Bash for Bikes cancelled it has been pretty quiet for CWOH. We did find out that we will receive part of the proceeds from ABATE of Erie County’s annual Bullseye Run on July 18th. Instead of one charity this year they are donating to all the past charities they have helped with the Bullseye Run. We truly appreciate their efforts. Also, we will be the recipient, along with Lucy’s First Step, of the proceeds from the Dash J. Makowski Charity Raffle and BBQ. It will be September 5th at Sparrow Pond in Waterford. Together we will be raffling off a fantastic camping package! We have tickets for the event if you want some. The ticket is your entrance fee (also available at the door) and for food. They will enter the ticket stub to win 3 cash prizes - 1st prize is \$1500.00, 2nd prize is \$500.00 and 3rd prize is \$200.00. So, even if you can’t go, you can still win! There will be \$50.00 giveaways every 30 minutes for those attending. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. If you would like some, please notify us!! Also, we will have tickets available for the camping package.

Tickets will also be made up for our “Covid 19 Relief Basket of Cheer”. There are 6 bottles of different kinds of alcohol. You will need to be 21 or older to get chances. We are hoping to raffle it off around Thanksgiving time. More on that later.

“Do not confine your children to your learning for they were born in another time.”

Chinese Proverb

Don't forget that Dickey's BBQ will be holding a fundraiser for Cody's Wheels Of Hope. From Monday, July 20th through Saturday, July 25th when you get food from Dickey's we will receive 10% of your bill. You must have a flyer, and if you go more than once that week you will need another. You can find a flyer to print from on our Facebook page or I can mail one to you. Let me know if you need one. You can email me at cindy@cwoh.org or call me at 814 460-8228.

Early this year Boscov's Department Store notified us that their Friends Helping Friends Sales Event will be on October 14th. Because the store had been closed for months, we have not received any other information from them. My emails have not been answered. We usually have the passes to sell long before now, so I am assuming that maybe the event is cancelled. If that changes, We will let you know.

As I stated earlier, many events have been cancelled this year. We don't even know what next year will bring. Our funding for the year has been severely cut and we don't see anything major on the horizon. If you would care to donate to us, we would greatly appreciate it. It is hard for everyone this year, but even a small amount helps. We have PayPal on our website (www.cwoh.org). You can also mail a check to Cody's Wheels Of Hope PO Box 8735 Erie, PA 16505. You can send a donation in honor or memory of someone, or maybe as a way of commemorating an event in your life. With all that is occurring now, please remember that children's life-threatening illnesses do not go away. Their lives continue with treatments, Covid 19 or not! They need to have something fun to look forward to. That's what we do – with your help!

“Choose your friends by their character and your socks by their color. Choosing your socks by their character makes no sense and choosing your friends by color is unthinkable.”

Anonymous

Goodbye for now. Please stay safe and healthy..... and WEAR A MASK!!!

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hospicenet.org
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raacaerie.org

Thank you all for your support and help. If you have ideas for the newsletter, ideas for fundraisers (or would possibly want to sponsor a fundraising event) or need more information from us, please notify us. We cannot do this alone, and your help is very much appreciated!

The **ONLY** requirements for receiving a bike/wheeled toy from CWOH is that the child be 18 years old or younger and have a life threatening illness.

It is our wish to reach many more eligible children. However, until we can be assured of a steady flow of donations, we are hesitant to contact sources that can help us reach the children. If you would care to make a monthly or quarterly pledge to Cody's Wheels Of Hope, please contact Cindy – (cindy@cwoh.org or (814) 460-8228). All donations are tax deductible.

If you do not wish to receive these newsletters, or any other mailings, from Cody's Wheels Of Hope, please notify us and we will remove your name from our mailing list. (We NEVER buy, sell or trade names with any other entities)

Thank you all so much. See you again in a few months with lots of news!

Cindy, Rich, Kristoffer & Julie Filson